

BILL NO. 81-12

BOOK 6 PAGE 407

AS AMENDED

COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 81-12 (AS AMENDED)

Introduced by Council President Hardwicke at the request of the  
County Executive

Legislative Day No. 81-6 Date February 17, 1981

AN ACT to repeal Harford County Ordinance Number 28, heading, Harford County Plumbing Code (1965) ~~and to add new Chapter 17, heading, "Plumbing"-to-the-Harford-County-Code-as-amended-and-to-add Article~~ and to add new article I, heading, In General, and Article II, heading, Plumbing Code to Chapter 17, heading, Plumbing, all to be part of the Harford County Code, as amended, and to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Article I, heading, Water Conserving Fixtures of Chapter 17, of the Harford County Code, to provide for the establishment of a Harford County plumbing code and further to provide, that Harford County, Maryland, adopt by reference the 1978 National Standard Plumbing Code and the 1979 supplement thereto, and the American National Standard for installation of gas appliances and gas piping, 1974 Edition, and further to provide for the licensing of certain types of plumbing installers, to provide penalties for the violation of the Chapter, and generally relating to the establishment and operation of plumbing installations, fixtures and materials in Harford County, Maryland.

By the Council, February 17, 1981

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: March 17, 1981

at: 7:00 P.M.

By Order: Angela Markowski, Secretary

#### PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on March 17, 1981 and concluded on March 17, 1981

Angela Markowski, Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

BILL NO. 81-12  
AS AMENDED

1 Section 1. *Be It Enacted By The County Council Of Harford County,*  
2 *Maryland,* that Harford County Ordinance Number 28, heading,  
3 ~~Plumbing-Code, 1965, be, and is hereby repealed and that new~~  
4 ~~Chapter 17, heading, Plumbing, be, and it is hereby added to the~~  
5 ~~Harford County Code, (as amended), and that Article I, heading,~~  
6 ~~In General, and Article II, heading, Plumbing Code, be, and they~~  
7 ~~are hereby added to Chapter 17, heading, Plumbing, of the Harford~~  
8 ~~County Code, (as amended), all to read as follows: PLUMBING CODE,~~  
9 ~~1965, BE, AND IT IS HEREBY REPEALED AND THAT ARTICLE I, HEADING,~~  
10 ~~WATER CONSERVING FIXTURES OF CHAPTER 17 OF THE HARFORD COUNTY~~  
11 ~~CODE, BE, AND IT IS HEREBY REPEALED AND RE-ENACTED WITH AMEND-~~  
12 ~~MENTS TO STAND AS NEW ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 17, AND THAT NEW~~  
13 ~~ARTICLE I, HEADING, IN GENERAL, AND NEW ARTICLE II, HEADING,~~  
14 ~~PLUMBING CODE, BE, AND THEY ARE HEREBY ADDED TO CHAPTER 17,~~  
15 ~~HEADING, PLUMBING OF THE HARFORD COUNTY CODE, (AS AMENDED),~~  
16 ~~ALL TO READ AS FOLLOWS:~~

17 Chapter 17. Plumbing.

18 Article I. In General.

19 Section 17.1. Adoption of National Standard Plumbing Code.

20 The National Standard Plumbing Code, 1978, and the 1979  
21 Supplement thereto, hereinafter referred to as Plumbing Code, or  
22 Code, as published by the National Association of Plumbing, Heat-  
23 ing-Cooling Contractors, is hereby adopted by Harford County, and  
24 by reference thereto is made a part of this Chapter, with the  
25 same force and effect as though set out in full herein, except  
26 for such changes, amendments and revisions as are specified  
27 in this Chapter. At least three copies of the Plumbing Code  
28 and supplements thereto are on file and open for public use,  
29 examination and inspection in the office of the Director of  
30 Administration.

31 Section 17.2. Adoption of the American National Standard for  
32 the Installation of Gas Appliances and Gas Piping Code.

1 The American National Standard for installation of gas  
2 appliances and gas piping, (N.F.P.A. 54-1974), as published by  
3 The American Gas Association, American Society of Mechanical  
4 Engineers and the National Fire Protection Association, is hereby  
5 adopted by Harford County and by reference thereto, is made a  
6 part of this chapter with the same force and effect as though  
7 set out in full herein, save and except for such changes, amend-  
8 ments and revisions as are specified in this chapter. At least  
9 three copies of the standards and supplements thereto are on  
10 file and open for public use, examination and inspection in the  
11 office of the Director of Administration.

12 Section 17.3. Purpose.

13 The purpose of this chapter is to provide practical plumbing  
14 and gas fitting regulations to safeguard persons and gas fitting  
15 conditions in Harford County.

16 ARTICLE II, PLUMBING CODE.

17 Section 17.4. Scope and Applicability of Code.

18 The provisions of this chapter shall apply to and govern  
19 plumbing and gas fitting in all installations in Harford County.

20 Section 17.5. Definitions.

21 The following words and phrases are defined as follows:

- 22 1. On-site water, sewer and storm drain systems.

23 A private water distribution, sanitary sewer or storm drain  
24 system consisting of water lines, valves, fire hydrants, sewer  
25 lines, manholes, catch basins, storm drain pipe, and all of their  
26 appurtenances; privately owned and maintained, which system  
27 serves two or more of the owner's buildings and the system is  
28 connected to a public water sanitary sewer, or storm drain system.

- 29 2. Plumbing: The definition as established in Chapter  
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1 of the 1978 National Standard Plumbing Code is hereby adopted  
2 and incorporated as a part of this chapter.

3 3. Administrative Authority: The head of the Depart-  
4 ment of Inspections, Licenses and Permits and the authorized  
5 agents of the department head.

6 4. Gas Fittings: Means work on gas lines and equip-  
7 ment in accordance with the standards established in this  
8 chapter.

9 5. Code: Means National Standard Plumbing Code as  
10 adopted by this chapter.

11 6. Gas Code: Means American National Standard  
12 National Fuel Gas Code as adopted by this chapter.

13 Section 17.6. Changes, additions and deletions.

14 The following changes, additions and deletions are hereby  
15 made to the adopted Code:

16 (a) Conformance with Code. The following is to be added  
17 to the Code as new Section 1.11.

18 All plumbing materials, and plumbing systems or parts there-  
19 of installed hereafter shall meet or exceed the minimum provisions  
20 of the Code.

21 (b) Conformance with other regulations. The following is  
22 to be added to the Code as new Section 1.12.

23 Nothing in this Code shall be construed to prevent the  
24 application of other legal requirements.

25 (c) Freezing. Section 2.16 of the Code is amended to read  
26 as follows:

27 Water service piping shall be installed below recorded  
28 frost penetration, but not less than a below grade depth of 3  
29 feet 6 inches. Water, soil or waste piping are not permitted  
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1 outside of a building or in an exterior wall unless complete and  
2 proper provision is made to protect such pipe from freezing.

3 (d) Connection to water and sewer system. Section 2, 1.91  
4 of the Code is amended to read as follows:

5 The water distribution and drainage system of any building  
6 in which plumbing fixtures are installed shall be connected to  
7 a public water supply and sewer system if available. A public  
8 water supply system and/or public sewer system shall be  
9 deemed available to a premise used for human occupancy if  
10 such a premise is within 300 feet of the public water supply  
11 or sewer system and a connection conforming with the standards  
12 set forth in the Code may be made thereto. These premises  
13 shall be connected to the public systems regardless of the  
14 operating condition of any private installations.

15 (e) Fire rating. The following is to be added to the Code  
16 as new Section 3.3.6.

17 (1) All thermoplastic pipe penetrating a fire-rated  
18 wall or ceiling shall meet the integrity of the wall or ceiling.  
19 Conformance to this requirement shall be evidenced by a test  
20 report from a nationally recognized fire testing laboratory.

21 (2) It shall be stated by the testing laboratory that  
22 the plastic pipe will not spread either fire or significant  
23 quantities of smoke from one floor to another during a two (2)  
24 hour fire, provided the material is installed in accordance with  
25 the results of the test.

26 (f) Grease Interceptors. The following is to be added to  
27 the Code as new Section 6.2.6.

28 Commercial Buildings.

29 A grease interceptor shall be required in restaurants,  
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1 and other similar establishments, (except in special cases  
2 as may be determined by the Administrative Authority).

3 (g) Permitted floor drains. The following is to be added  
4 to the Code as new Section 7.16.3.

5 When approved by the Administrative Authority, floor drains  
6 may be installed in basements, utility rooms, commercial kitchens,  
7 food processing establishments, public rest rooms, and in other  
8 locations where they may help promote the cleanliness of the  
9 building.

10 (h) Connections to boilers. The following is to be added  
11 to the Code as new Section 10.4.9.

12 Potable water connections to boiler feed water systems,  
13 in which boiler water conditioning chemicals are introduced shall  
14 be made through an air gap, or the system shall be provided with  
15 an approved backflow preventer located in the potable water line  
16 prior to the point where such chemicals are introduced. Boilers  
17 shall be equipped with twin check valves, and supplied with  
18 appropriate testing arrangements in cold water supply to the  
19 boiler. If toxic materials are to be used in the boiler, addi-  
20 tional protection must be installed.

21 (i) Water service pipe. Section 10.10.1 is amended as  
22 follows:

23 Water service pipe to point of entrance to the building  
24 shall be made of asbestos cement pipe, brass pipe, copper tube  
25 or copper pipe, cast iron water pipe, galvanized wrought iron  
26 pipe, galvanized open-hearth iron pipe, or galvanized ~~steel~~ STEEL  
27 pipe, or approved plastic pipe, TESTED TO WITHSTAND A MINIMUM  
28 PRESSURE OF 160 POUNDS PER SQUARE INCH. Copper tubing, when used  
29 underground, shall not be less than type "L". All threaded ferrous  
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1 pipe and fittings shall be galvanized or cement lined, and when  
2 used underground in corrosive soil or filled ground they, shall be  
3 coal-tar enamel coated and threaded joints shall be coated and  
4 wrapped when installed.

5 (j) Excessive pressures. Section 10.14.6 is to be amended  
6 as follows:

7 When street main pressure exceeds 70 p.s.i., an approved  
8 pressure reducing valve shall be installed in the water service  
9 pipe near its entrance to the building to reduce the water  
10 pressure to 70 p.s.i. or lower, except where the water pipe sup-  
11 plies water directly to a water pressure booster system, an  
12 elevated water gravity tank, or to pumps provided in connection  
13 with a hydropneumatic or elevated gravity water supply tank  
14 system. Pressure at any fixture shall be limited to no more  
15 than 70 p.s.i. under no-flow conditions.

16 (k) Building sewer. Section 11.2.1 is to be amended as  
17 follows:

18 (1) In a trench separate from water service: If the  
19 building sewer line is installed in a trench separate from the  
20 water service line, the sewer pipe material shall be of either  
21 asbestos cement; cast iron; soil pipe, bell and spigot, service  
22 weight or heavier; soil pipe, concrete or vitrified clay or other  
23 approved material. Joints shall be watertight and root proof.  
24 ABS or PVC schedule 80 plastic pipe or heavier, PSM SDR 35  
25 (PVCSP) plastic pipe, may also be used.

26 (2) In a trench with water service: If the building  
27 sewer is installed in the same trench as the water service line  
28 the sewer pipe material shall be durable, corrosion resistant,  
29 and so installed as to remain watertight and proof. The sewer  
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1 line shall be tested with a ten foot head of water or equivalent  
2 and found to be right. The conditions in Section 10.6.1 shall  
3 also be met.

4 Section 17.7. Gas Fittings.

5 (a) All gas fittings shall be done in accordance with the  
6 requirements of the National Fire Protection Association 54-1974  
7 and the American National Standards Institute 223.1 of 1974,  
8 known as the National Fuel Gas Code.

9 This standard code applies to the installation of all  
10 types of gas appliances and to the design, fabrication, installa-  
11 tion and tests of all piping systems for fuel gases such as  
12 natural gas, manufactured gas, undiluted liquified petroleum  
13 gas-air mixtures or mixtures of any of these gases as follows:

14 (1) Low pressure gas systems (not in excess of  
15 1/2 pound per square inch of 14 inches water column) in piping  
16 systems extending from the outlet of the meter set assembly, or  
17 the outlet of the service regulator when a meter is not provided,  
18 to the inlet connections of appliances.

19 (2) The installation of appliances supplied at pressure  
20 of 1/2 pound per square inch or less. Part 2 of this standard  
21 applies to:

22 (i) Gas piping systems for industrial installa-  
23 tion at any other gas piping system operating at pressures greater  
24 than 1/2 pound per square inch.

25 (ii) Gas equipment designed and installed for  
26 specific manufacturing, production, processing and power  
27 generating application.

28 Section 17.8. Plumbing Board.

29 (See Chapter 2, Section 2.53)  
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1 Section 17.9. Types of Licenses.

2 Master ~~Plumber-Gasfitter's~~ PLUMBER Licenses:

3 (a) This license will be issued to a person who has served  
4 two years or more as a registered journeyman plumber,~~er-as-a~~  
5 ~~journeyman-plumber-gasfitter~~, who has served under a Master  
6 ~~Plumber-Gasfitter~~, and has been qualified and approved by the  
7 Maryland State Board Commission of Practical Plumbing under their  
8 requirements.

9 (b) The holder of a Master ~~Plumber-Gasfitter~~ PLUMBER License  
10 is eligible to secure permits and has authority to perform plumbing,  
11 ~~gasfitting~~ PLUMBERS, onsite sewer, water system and disposal sys-  
12 tems in Harford County, and may employ registered journeyman  
13 ~~plumber-gasfitters~~ and apprentices, and must have a regular  
14 place of business in the State of Maryland.

15 Section 17.10. Journeyman ~~Plumber-Gasfitter's~~ PLUMBER License:

16 (a) This license will be issued to a person who has been  
17 qualified and approved by the State of Maryland requirements.

18 (b) The holder of a Journeyman ~~Plumber-Gasfitter~~ PLUMBER  
19 License is eligible for employment in the plumbing ~~and-gasfitting~~  
20 business for, and under the direction of, a registered Master  
21 ~~Plumber-Gasfitter~~ PLUMBER.

22 Section 17.11. Master Limited ~~Plumber-Gasfitter's~~ License:

23 This license will be issued to a corporation, firm or company  
24 not primary engaged in the plumbing business which desires to do  
25 plumbing work limited to maintenance and repair, alterations and  
26 minor extension of existing plumbing systems on the premises  
27 occupied by it in connection with its primary business. Such  
28 license shall specify the name of the representative or representa-  
29 tives employed by the corporation, company or firm under whose  
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1 direction such plumbing work shall be performed and who shall be  
2 qualified by an examination by the Maryland State Board Commis-  
3 sioners of Practical Plumbing. The holder of a Master Plumber-  
4 ~~Gasfitter-License-shall-be-deemed-as-qualified-representative-a~~  
5 PLUMBER LICENSE SHALL QUALIFY AS A Master Limited Plumber-Gas  
6 Fitter PLUMBER without the necessity of an examination.

7 ~~Section-17.12.--Master-Gasfitter's-License,-Journeyman-Gas-~~  
8 ~~fitter-Licensed-in-other-jurisdictions-~~

9 ~~The-plumbing-board-shall-accept-as-valid-licenses-from~~  
10 ~~other-jurisdictions-which-if-these-jurisdictions-license-persons~~  
11 ~~in-a-manner-acceptable-to-the-Board-~~

12 ~~Section-17.13.--On-Site-Utility-Contractor's-License-~~

13 ~~a.--This-license-shall-be-issued-to-an-official-of-a~~  
14 ~~company,-firm-or-corporation-who-installs-on-site-sewer,-water~~  
15 ~~and-storm-drainage-facilities-from-connections-at-the-property~~  
16 ~~line-to-within-five-feet-of-any-newly-constructed-improvement~~  
17 ~~on-such-property-and-who-is-entitled-to-secure-permits-for~~  
18 ~~such-work.--The-person-shall-have-a-regular-place-of-business~~  
19 ~~in-the-State-of-Maryland-and-shall-be-qualified-by-performance-~~

20 SECTION 17.12. MASTER GAS FITTER LICENSE.

21 (a) THIS LICENSE WILL BE ISSUED TO A PERSON WHO HAS SERVED  
22 TWO YEARS OR MORE AS A REGISTERED JOURNEYMAN GAS FITTER, WHO HAS  
23 SERVED UNDER A MASTER GAS FITTER AND HAS BEEN QUALIFIED AND  
24 APPROVED UNDER REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED BY THE PLUMBING BOARD, OR  
25 WHO HAS A VALID LICENSE FROM ANOTHER JURISDICTION WHICH LICENSES  
26 PERSONS IN A MANNER ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD.

27 (b) THE HOLDER OF A MASTER GAS FITTER LICENSE IS ELIGIBLE  
28 TO SECURE PERMITS AND HAS AUTHORITY TO PERFORM GAS FITTING WORK  
29 ANY MAY EMPLOY JOURNEYMAN GAS FITTERS AND APPRENTICES AND MUST HAVE

1 A REGULAR PLACE OF BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

2 SECTION 17.13. JOURNEYMAN GAS FITTER LICENSE.

3 (a) THIS LICENSE WILL BE ISSUED TO A PERSON WHO HAS  
4 SERVED AT LEAST ONE YEAR AS AN APPRENTICE GAS FITTER AND HAS  
5 BEEN QUALIFIED AND APPROVED UNDER REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED BY  
6 THE PLUMBING BOARD, OR WHO HAS A VALID JOURNEYMAN GAS FITTER  
7 LICENSE FROM ANOTHER JURISDICTION WHICH LICENSES PERSONS IN A  
8 MANNER ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD.

9 (b) THE HOLDER OF A JOURNEYMAN GAS FITTER LICENSE IS  
10 ELIGIBLE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE GAS FITTING BUSINESS FOR AND  
11 UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A REGISTERED MASTER GAS FITTER.

12 Section 17.14. Water Pump Contractor's License:

13 This license shall be issued to a person who installs water  
14 pumps in wells, springs and cisterns and who is authorized to  
15 connect such pumps to the water system of any building used for  
16 human occupancy, and who is entitled to secure permits for such  
17 work. Such person shall have a regular place of business in the  
18 State of Maryland, and shall be qualified to perform such work.

19 Section 17.15. Suspension and Revocation of Licenses.

20 (a) The Administrative Authority may, in its discretion,  
21 suspend or revoke the license of any person who shall make any  
22 false or misleading statement in an application, or who shall  
23 sell, lend or otherwise permit any improper use of a license,  
24 or who shall obtain permits for others to do plumbing or gas-  
25 fitting work, or who shall fail to maintain a regular place  
26 of business.

27 (b) Upon receipt of written requests directed to the  
28 Administrative Authority, the Administrative Authority in its  
29 discretion, may suspend or revoke the license of any person who  
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1 shall commit any violation of this and the Harford County Plumb-  
2 ing and Gasfitting Code or any other law or regulation governing  
3 the conduct of the plumbing and gasfitting business.

4 (c) No license shall be suspended or revoked except after  
5 public hearing before the Administrative Authority, or which the  
6 license holder shall receive at least five days notice in  
7 writing, together with a statement of the charges. Upon such  
8 hearing, the Administrative Authority may suspend any license for  
9 such a period of time as it may find proper, or revoke same.

10 (d) In the event of a revocation, no application for the  
11 reinstatement of a revoked license shall be entertained until the  
12 expiration of six months from the date of such revocation. At  
13 the end of such six month period, the Administrative Authority may,  
14 in its discretion, reinstate a revoked license.

15 Section 17.16. Registration and Use of License.

16 (a) Every licensed Master Plumber-Gasfitter, Master Gasfitter,  
17 Master Limited Plumber Gasfitter, On-Site Utility Contractor, and  
18 Water Pump Contractor shall register with the Administrative  
19 Authority the business address and the name under which such  
20 business is carried on and shall give immediate notice to the  
21 Administrative Authority of any change in either. Such persons  
22 shall remove all advertising signs from premises vacated by them  
23 and shall not allow their name to be used by another person, firm,  
24 company or corporation for the purpose of obtaining permits or for  
25 doing the work under a previous occupant's license.

26 (b) All such licenses shall be renewed each year by payment of  
27 renewal fee equal to the original charge set forth herein prior to  
28 the first day of June. Such licenses shall be issued for one year  
29 beginning June 1st, and expiring May 30, in the succeeding year.

1 Section 17.17. License Fees.

2 Fees for licenses and examinations shall be as set forth  
3 in Harford County Code Chapter 13.

4 Section 17.18. Practice of Plumbing and Gasfitting.

5 (a) No person shall engage in plumbing or gasfitting as  
6 defined in this chapter in Harford County , unless that person has  
7 been duly authorized to do so by the issuance of one of the fore-  
8 going licenses. No person shall do or perform any plumbing or  
9 gasfitting work not authorized under an issued license.

10 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons  
11 working under the supervision of a Master Limited Plumber-Gasfitter  
12 on its premises, to persons working on on-site utility work under  
13 the supervision of an On-Site Utility Contractor, to persons  
14 working on disposal systems under the supervision of a Disposal  
15 System Contractor, or to person working on water pumping systems  
16 under the supervision of a Water Pump Contractor.

17 (c) A plumbing permit required by the Administrative Author-  
18 ity may be issued to a bonafide owner of a single family dwelling  
19 occupied exclusively by the owner to do any plumbing work regu-  
20 lated by this code on the dwelling, on condition that such work  
21 is done in compliance with this code. The owner must be qualified  
22 by the Harford County Plumbing Board before a permit may issued.

23 Section 17.19. Permits.

24 (a) No work authorized under this title, unless excepted in  
25 this chapter, shall be undertaken without a permit therefor  
26 issued by the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.  
27 Only Master Plumber-Gasfitter, Master Gasfitter, On-Site Utility  
28 Contractors, Disposal System Contractors, and Water Pump Contrac-  
29 tors shall be eligible to receive permits and then only to the  
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1 extent that they are authorized to do work under this title.

2 (b) This section shall not apply to work done by the holder of  
3 a Master Limited Plumber-Gasfitter License on the premises of such  
4 holder and provided that an Annual Inspection Permit has been  
5 obtained. No work shall be commenced by the holder of a Master  
6 Limited Plumber-Gasfitter's License ~~without-first-having-obtained~~  
7 PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF an Annual Inspection Permit from the  
8 Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.

9 Section 17.20. Permits Not Required:

10 (a) General Repairs. No permit shall be required for the  
11 replacement of faucets, ball cocks, exposed fixture traps, or  
12 shut-off valves.

13 (b) Stoppages and Leaks. No permit shall be required for  
14 the clearing of stoppages or repairing of leaks, when such repairs  
15 do not require the replacement of plumbing fixtures or any portion  
16 of the drainage system.

17 Section 17.21. Fixtures Below Grade.

18 Permits may be issued by the Administrative Authority or an  
19 authorized assistant when proper application is made, for the  
20 installation of plumbing fixtures or floor drains in a building  
21 or structure where the fixtures are located below the elevation  
22 of the curb at the point where the building sewer crosses under  
23 the curb at the property line.

24 Section 17.22. Permit Fees.

25 The schedule of fees for the issuance of permits for plumb-  
26 ing and gasfitting work shall be as designated in Chapter 13 of  
27 the Harford County Code.

28 Section 17.23. Plans & Specifications.

29 All plans and specifications required herein may be designed  
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1 by a Registered Professional Engineer licensed to do business in  
2 the State of Maryland. A Master Plumber-Gasfitter or Master  
3 Gasfitter registered to do business in Harford County may design  
4 plumbing or gas fitting systems for their own installation.

5 Each set of plans and specifications submitted shall have thereon  
6 the name and address of the designer, and a certification by the  
7 designer that the plans and specification have been prepared in  
8 accordance with this chapter. The plans and specifications shall  
9 be submitted in the form and quantities required by the Adminis-  
10 trative Authority and shall have thereon complete design and cal-  
11 culation criteria.

12 Section 17.24. Private Water Systems.

13 No property served by a private water system shall be  
14 directly or indirectly connected to any public water supply until  
15 it is disconnected from its original source of supply, inspected  
16 and approved by the Administrative Authority, and connected in  
17 accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

18 Section 17.25. Permits Required For Tapping Sewers.

19 No person shall tap sewers or drains in public or private  
20 streets, alleys or right of ways unless a permit is first  
21 obtained from the Department of Public Works, Water and Sewer  
22 Division. The tapping of all sewers shall be under the super-  
23 vision of the Water and Sewer Division.

24 Section 17.26. Bond.

25 (a) Before any permit to do plumbing or gas fitting work  
26 in Harford County is issued, the applicant shall post a bond  
27 in favor of Harford County in an amount not less than Three  
28 Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars.

29 (b) The bonds provided for herein must be issued by bonding  
30 companies authorized to do business in the State of Maryland and  
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1 such bonds shall be conditioned upon the fact that the holder  
2 thereof shall comply, in all respects, with each and every  
3 applicable provision of this chapter, and all laws and regulations  
4 of Harford County and the State of Maryland.

5 (c) Should the bond holder fail or refuse to remove or  
6 replace any materials or correct any work which shall have been  
7 found not to be in accordance with the provisions of this chapter  
8 the Administrative Authority shall have the authority to cause  
9 such defective material or work to be removed and/or replaced  
10 or such repairs to be made as may be deemed necessary, at the  
11 expense of the bond holder. Any work performed by or for the  
12 Administrative Authority shall not relieve the bond holder in any  
13 way from the responsibility for any work and any remedies or  
14 penalties herein mentioned are, in addition to any other remedies or  
15 penalties provided by the laws of Maryland and the laws of  
16 Harford County.

17 (d) The liability of the surety on any bond given pursuant  
18 to this chapter and the liability of any bond holder for materials  
19 furnished or work performed under this chapter shall not extend  
20 to defects in materials or workmanship discovered more than  
21 twelve (12) months after completed work has been inspected and  
22 approved by the Administrative Authority.

23 Section 17.27. Emergency Work.

24 When work of an emergency nature must be performed to rectify  
25 a possible health or hazardous condition the Master Plumber-Gas-  
26 fitter, Master Gas Fitter, On-Site Utility Contractor, or Water  
27 Pump Contractor, as the case may be, may undertake such work prior  
28 to the issuance of a permit, but it will be their responsibility  
29 to notify the Administrative Authority of the emergency and obtain  
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1 a permit for doing such work within a reasonable time.

2 Section 17.27. Inspection of Plumbing and Gas Fitting.

3 (a) The Administrative Authority shall cause the inspection  
4 of all plumbing and gas fitting for which a plumbing or gas permit  
5 other than an annual inspection permit, is required in Harford  
6 County during the course of construction and upon completion  
7 of the construction. If any defects are found, the Administrative  
8 Authority shall have the authority to order such plumbing or  
9 gas fitting to be corrected to comply with the provisions of  
10 this chapter. It shall be unlawful for any person to cover or en-  
11 close from view any portions of such plumbing or gas fitting prior  
12 to the time that the Administrative Authority has inspected and  
13 approved it. The Administrative Authority shall prepare a written  
14 report of all such inspections and will maintain such report  
15 in appropriate file.

16 (b) No potable well water service line or well for potable  
17 water supply shall be covered or enclosed from view prior to  
18 inspection by the proper authority. The service line and all  
19 underground fittings connected thereto shall be tested for leaks  
20 and overall integrity prior to covering and enclosing the line.

21 Section 17.28. Revocation of Permits.

22 The Division of Inspection, License and Permits, upon the  
23 recommendation of the Administrative Authority may, at any time,  
24 revoke for good cause, any plumbing or gas permit previously  
25 issued. The owner of a property may, at any time, in writing,  
26 request the revocation of a permit previously issued for work to  
27 be performed on such property.

28 Section 17.29. Transfer of Permits.

29 (a) A permit may be transferred from one plumber to another  
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1 licensed plumber with the permission of the owner of the property  
2 or the owner's agent. The new plumber shall then make application  
3 for a permit for the part of the work which remains to be  
4 completed and the new plumber will be held responsible in all  
5 respects for the work done under the new permit. An owner's  
6 request to transfer a permit to another plumber shall be complied  
7 with by the former plumber.

8 Section 17.30. Piping Through Adjacent Property.

9 (a) Plumbing, sewer, water and gas piping shall not be con-  
10 nected or installed on property other than the property to be  
11 served. Plumbing or gas piping connections which cannot be made  
12 except by the crossing of non-serviced property, may, with the  
13 permission of the Administrative Authority, be carried through a  
14 right-of-way or easement across non-serviced property provided  
15 that:

16 1. All privileges of such right-of-way or easement are  
17 obtained by the property owner desiring service, without any  
18 cost, liability or damage to Harford County;

19 2. Such easement of right-of-way shall meet all regula-  
20 tory requirements of the Administrative Authority; and

21 3. Such easement or right-of-way shall be granted  
22 and conveyed by formal deed recorded in the Land Records of  
23 Harford County.

24 Section 17.31. Permits Required For Connection to Public Water;  
25 Damages.

26 (a) A permit shall be obtained from the Harford County  
27 Department of Public Works, Water and Sewer Division, prior to  
28 a connection being made to a public water line.

29 (b) Any person making any connections to a public water or  
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1 sewer line, or operating excavation machinery in the vicinity  
2 thereof, shall be fully responsible for any damage done to those  
3 lines during the construction or connection activity.

4 ARTICLE III. WATER CONSERVING FIXTURES.

5 SECTION 17.32. WATER CONSERVING FIXTURES REQUIRED: DEFINITIONS.

6 (a) IN GENERAL. FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECTIONS 17.32 and  
7 17.33 THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:

8 (1) APPROVED SHOWER HEAD MEANS ANY AUTOMATIC FLOW  
9 SHOWER HEAD USING NO MORE THAN TWELVE (12) LITERS OF WATER PER  
10 MINUTE, WITH THE RATE BASED ON A PRESSURE AT THE FIXTURE HEAD OF  
11 EIGHTEEN (18) TO TWENTY-TWO AND FIVE-TENTHS (22.5) KILOGRAMS  
12 PER SQUARE CENTIMETER (FORTY (40) TO FIFTY (50) POUNDS PER  
13 SQUARE INCH).

14 (2) APPROVED SINK FAUCET FOR A PUBLIC FACILITY MEANS  
15 ANY FAUCET WITH SPRING LOADED VALVES OR OTHER DEVICES THAT STOP  
16 THE FLOW OF WATER UPON RELEASE OF THE HANDLE OR THAT STOP THE  
17 FLOW OF WATER AFTER MORE THAN FOUR (4) LITERS OF WATER HAS FLOWED  
18 THROUGH THE FITTING.

19 (3) APPROVED SINK FAUCET FOR PRIVATE USE MEANS ANY  
20 FAUCET USING NO MORE THAN SIXTEEN (16) LITERS OF WATER PER  
21 MINUTE, WITH THE RATE BASED ON A PRESSURE AT THE FIXTURE HEAD  
22 OF EIGHTEEN (18) TO TWENTY-TWO AND FIVE-TENTHS (22.5) KILOGRAMS  
23 PER SQUARE CENTIMETER (FORTY (40) TO FIFTY (50) POUNDS PER  
24 SQUARE INCH).

25 (4) APPROVED WATER CLOSET MEANS ANY WATER CLOSET USING  
26 NO MORE THAN FIFTEEN (15) LITERS OF WATER PER FLUSH, WITH THE  
27 RATE BASED ON A PRESSURE AT THE FIXTURE HEAD OF EIGHTEEN (18)  
28 TO TWENTY-TWO AND FIVE-TENTHS (22.5) KILOGRAMS PER SQUARE CENTI-  
29 METER (FORTY (40) TO FIFTY (50) POUNDS PER SQUARE INCH).

(5) APPROVED URINAL MEANS ANY SINGLE FLUSH TYPE URINAL USING NO MORE THAN SIX (6) LITERS OR WATER PER FLUSH, WITH THE RATE BASED ON A PRESSURE AT THE FIXTURE OF EIGHTEEN (18) TO TWENTY-TWO AND FIVE-TENTHS (22.5) KILOGRAMS PER SQUARE CENTIMETER (FORTY (40) TO FIFTY (50) POUNDS PER SQUARE INCH).

(6) BUILDING INCLUDES ANY BUILDING OR STRUCTURE THE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION OF WHICH COMMENCED ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT.

(7) CONSTRUCTED MEANS THE BUILDING, INSPECTING AND SUPERVISING OF NEW STRUCTURES AND THE INSTALLING OF EQUIPMENT REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEW STRUCTURES.

(8) LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTORS MEANS THE INSPECTORS OF THE APPROPRIATE AGENCIES OR UNITS OF THE COUNTY WHO INSPECT THE INSTALLATION OF PLUMBING FIXTURES AND DEVICES AND WATER, DRAINAGE, AND SEWAGE SYSTEMS.

(9) REMODELED MEANS THE COMPLETE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE RELOCATION OF A WHOLE PLUMBING SYSTEM TO ANOTHER PART OF A BUILDING.

(10) DIRECTOR MEANS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS.

(b) SALES.

(1) A PERSON MAY NOT SELL ANY PLUMBING FIXTURE WHICH IS NOT AN APPROVED PLUMBING FIXTURE AS DEFINED IN SUBSECTION (a).

(2) THE LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTORS SHALL ENFORCE THE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE SALE OF ANY PLUMBING FIXTURES WHICH ARE NOT WATER-CONSERVING FIXTURES IN THE INTERESTS OF ENSURING THAT THE CAPACITIES FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT OF MUNICIPAL SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES AND PRIVATE ON-SITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEMS ARE NOT EXCEEDED.

(c) REQUIRED WATER-CONSERVING FIXTURES AND DEVICES, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (d), THE FOLLOWING FIXTURES OR DEVICES SHALL BE INSTALLED, AS NECESSARY IN BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED OR REMODELED AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT.

(1) APPROVED WATER CLOSETS, IN EVERY BUILDING.

(2) APPROVED URINALS, IN EVERY BUILDING.

(3) APPROVED SINK FAUCETS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCES AND IN BUILDINGS WITH RESTROOMS NOT INTENDED FOR PUBLIC USE AND IN HOTELS, MOTELS AND DORMITORIES.

(4) APPROVED SINK FAUCETS FOR A PUBLIC FACILITY, IN BUILDINGS WITH RESTROOMS INTENDED FOR PUBLIC USE EXCEPT IN HOTELS, MOTELS AND DORMITORIES.

(5) APPROVED SHOWERHEADS, IN EVERY BUILDING.

(d) ENFORCEMENT SUSPENDED. ENFORCEMENT OF THIS SECTION MAY BE SUSPENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME IF IT IS DETERMINED BY THE LOCAL PLUMBING INSPECTORS THAT:

(1) THERE IS AN INADEQUATE SUPPLY OF APPROVED WATER CLOSETS, APPROVED SINK FAUCETS OR APPROVED SHOWER HEADS, OR WATER-CONSERVING DEVICES INTENDED FOR ATTACHMENT TO WATER CLOSTES, SINK FAUCETS OR SHOWERHEADS TO ALLOW THE FIXTURES TO QUALIFY AS APPROVED FIXTURES, UNDER SUBSECTION (a); OR

(2) THE CONFIGURATION OF A DRAINAGE SYSTEM FOR A BUILDING REQUIRES A GREATER QUANTITY OF WATER TO ADEQUATELY FLUSH THE SYSTEM THAN IS DELIVERED BY APPROVED FIXTURES: OR

(3) THERE WOULD BE AN ADVERSE EFFECT UPON A HISTORIC RESTORATION.

(e) FORFEITURES. ANY PERSON VIOLATING ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ELECTION SHALL FORFEIT TO THE COUNTY NOT LESS THAN

1 TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$25.00) NOR MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS  
2 (\$500.00) FOR EACH VIOLATION. EACH DAY THAT THE VIOLATION  
3 CONTINUES CONSTITUTES A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

4 SECTION 17.33. EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY.

5 THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL IMMEDIATELY INSTITUTE MEASURES  
6 CONSISTENT WITH COUNCILMANIC POLICY AND ADOPTED PLANS TO INCREASE  
7 THE WATER SUPPLY OF THE COUNTY AND DECREASE CONSUMPTION SUCH AS,  
8 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, REQUIRING THE USE OF FIXTURES AS STATED  
9 HEREIN, AND REQUIRING A LIMITED USE OF POTABLE WATER FOR PURPOSES  
10 OF OTHER THAN FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND USE.

11 Section 17.32 34. Violations and Penalties.

12 Any person, firm or corporation who individually, collectively,  
13 or through others shall construct, erect, alter or repair any  
14 plumbing or gas fitting work in violation of any provision of this  
15 chapter shall be subject to a misdemeanor and upon conviction  
16 shall be subject to a fine of not more than One Thousand (\$1,000)  
17 Dollars or imprisonment of not more than six (6) months or both.  
18 Each day a violation exists shall be considered a separate viola-  
19 tion. Harford County may also proceed by civil injunction in the  
20 enforcement of this chapter.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED THAT THE LICENSING REQUIRE-  
22 MENTS, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, SHALL APPLY TO  
23 ANY PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION WHO APPLIES FOR A PLUMBING OR GAS  
24 FITTER LICENSE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT. A PERSON,  
25 FIRM OR CORPORATION APPLYING FOR A GAS FITTER LICENSE AFTER THE  
26 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT MUST PASS A TEST ISSUED BY THE PLUMBING  
27 BOARD IN ORDER TO PERFORM GAS FITTING.

28 THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE ESTABLISHED,  
29 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, SHALL NOT APPLY TO A PERSON  
30 WHO HAS BEEN ISSUED A LICENSE PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS  
31 ACT.

81-12

AS AMENDED

BOOK 6 PAGE 429

Section 2 3. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that this Act shall take  
effective sixty (60) calendar days from the date it becomes law.

EFFECTIVE: June 22, 1981

81-12

AS AMENDED

81-12

AS AMENDED

BOOK 6 PAGE 430

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time, Bill No. 81-12 (as amended)

Passed LSD 81-12 (April 21, 1981) (with amendments)

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

By order

Angela Markowski, Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive  
for his approval this 22nd day of April, 1981  
at 3:00 o'clock P.M.

Angela Markowski, Secretary



BY THE EXECUTIVE

APPROVED:

[Signature]  
County Executive

Date April 23, 1981

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill (No. 81-12 (as amended), having been approved by  
the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on  
April 23, 1981.

Angela Markowski, Secretary

Rec'd & Recorded 9-4 1981 at 9:00 A.M.  
Libr 6 Folio 407 & examined per  
H. Douglas Chilcoat, Clerk, Hartford Co.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 22, 1981

81-12

AS AMENDED